

THE CASTAWAYS

" Didn't you hear anything. Block ? "
he asked.

" Nothing, nothing at all," the
boatswain answered ; " this swell is as noiseless as
if it were
made of oil instead of water/ "

The young man said no more, but
sat down
again with his arms folded across his
breast.

Just at this moment one of the
passengers sat
ap, and exclaimed, with a gesture of
despair :

" I wish a wave would smash this boat
up, and
;wallow us all up with it, rather than
that we
ihould all be given over to the horrors
of starva-
ion! To-morrow we shall have
exhausted the
ast of our provisions. We shall have
nothing left
it all/³

" To-morrow is to-morrow, Mr.
Wolston," the
Boatswain replied. " If the boat were to
capsize
here wouldn't be any to-morrow for
us ; and
while there is a to-morrow "

" John Block is right/' his young
companion
answered. " We must not give up hope,
James I
Whatever danger threatens us, we are
in God's
lands, to dispose of as He thinks fit.
His hand is
tx all that comes to us, and it is not
right to say
hat He has withdrawn it from us/³

" I know," James whispered, drooping
his head,

but one is not always master of one's
self."

Another passenger, a man of about
thirty^ one
f those who had been sitting in the
bows, ap-
roached John Block and said;